

Teleios Ministry

Helping God-Given Visions Become Present-Day Realities

‘Field Of Dreams’ In Glodeni Becoming A Reality

By Floyd Parker

One of the biggest challenges that Teleios faces in working with its partners is the development of local sustainability.

Recently, as Attila Toth and I looked over newly acquired property in Glodeni, Attila shared his dream – to establish a farm that would provide for the needs of the children’s home in Peris, support for the local mission work in Glodeni, and offer employment and training for Gypsy families. As we walked, the challenge was humbling and exciting.

Fondly called the “Field of Dreams,” this property was made possible through the generous gift of a Teleios partner who just said use as needed, but God already knew what the need was. This year, the land will be cleared of scrub trees, fenced and planted with hay which will be used to generate income. Two years ago, a specific type of berry was planted on a small part of the land. Those plants should begin producing in 2016.

The land is now in the process of being officially registered. It requires a lot of paperwork. Please pray that all will go smoothly. Pray, too, praising God for turning this vision into reality in Romania.



During a workshop session, Debbie Kenny, top center, shared with pastors’ wives and other leaders how God uses our gifts for His purpose and glory.

Kenyan Church Leaders Focus On Discipleship

By Bonnie Parker

During the September trip to Kenya, a team that consisted of Floyd and me, Debbie and Bill Kenny from Nashville, Mary and Bernard Kabaru, Robert Muteithia and Charles Wambui traveled to Kieni West to Bellavue Baptist Church. We had been invited to host a conference for pastors, their wives and leaders from churches in that area.

We were asked speak about the Biblical basis for ministry, the need to enhance the quality of discipleship development in the local church, and assess the need for leadership training in these area churches.

The day was dedicated to discussions

on the need to develop leaders within the churches to accomplish the mandate to reach people with the gospel and to equip and empower them to meet needs in Jesus’ name.

Transformation at a personal level and within the local Body of Christ will bring about holistic change within communities. Having realized that building relationships is vital to being able to share the love of Jesus, some women shared ways they are already ministering to others in their communities to accomplish this. Debbie shared how she uses her God-given gift of hospitality to host monthly Bible studies in her home to reach out and build relationships.

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ACTS Fellowship Tanzania Celebrates God's Blessing

November 15, 2015, will be remembered by members of ACTS Fellowship of Iringa, Tanzania, for years to come as they were able to hold their first worship service on their own property!

The worship service was alive with singing, testimony and prayer. It was truly a day of celebration and gathering of the body of Christ as members of Kidete Church, students from Bread of Life Secondary School and everyone from Daily Bread Life Children's Home came in support of the new church and to praise God.

Over the past months, church members held fundraisers which allowed them to purchase a piece of property in a developing area on the edge of Iringa. During the course of constructing a temporary building for worship, members got to know local residents and not only invite them to worship, but were able to share of God's love for them. As a result, one lady who had volunteered to clean the church accepted Christ and became the first member of ACTS TZ since the church moved to their new location.

Leading in worship was the Praise Team comprised of Maka, Sam, Brown, Kathryn and Betha. Providing technical assistance with the sound and serving as musicians were Stephen, Allen, Maka, Sam and Brown.

As the Praise Team led the congregation in singing, people came forward to present their offerings. With smiles on their faces, each



person gladly shared of the blessings God has bestowed.

The spirit of the Lord was most definitely in this place and is moving in a mighty way throughout the Iringa District. Continue to pray for this church, its mission and growth as God becomes more real in the lives of this Fellowship.



DISCIPLESHIP

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Bill, Floyd and Bernard listened to the pastors and church leaders as they shared their desire for more theological education and leadership training.

During these discussions, we learned that many pastors did not own complete Bibles. Their own spiritual growth and the ability to study and prepare in order to disciple their congregations have been stymied by this fact.

Before leaving Kenya that situation was remedied as personal study Bibles for the pastors and women's devotional Bibles were purchased by Teleios partners for each pastor and his wife.

The conference was well attended. Thirteen pastors from the Abederes Association participated, while 36 pastor's wives and women leaders representing various churches in the region took part in the women's sessions.

We shared a wonderful meal cooked by women of the community who attend Bellavue Church. The fellowship was inspiring and delightful during the mealtime.

Debbie and Bill had brought many gifts for the attendees and with Robert's help were able to get them distributed.



The need to enhance the quality of discipleship development in the local church was one of the primary topics of the workshop sessions for pastors attending the Leadership Conference.

As we departed, all agreed that God is leading us to invest ourselves and resources in helping the pastors and church leaders of that region grow and be better able to disciple their church members and reach into their communities with the life-changing message of Jesus Christ.

Witnessing The Full Measure Of God's Faithfulness

By Bonnie Parker

For 10 days in early September, I had the privilege to be among the Hungarian Baptists and the Hungarian-speaking Gypsy Churches in Satu Mare, Romania. Elizabeth Vekas had invited me to be a part of the annual Acas Gypsy Women's Conference, as well as to speak at the Hungarian Baptist Women's meeting in the Salaj area.

Floyd and I flew together from Greenville/Spartanburg Airport to Cluj where we were met by Jozsef Kovacs and his son, Tomas. Journeying along, we dropped Floyd off at the Agape Piensune Hotel in the village of Agaris so he could prepare for the Barnabas Group meeting that was to be held there within the next few days.

Floyd has worked with this group of pastors for many years and was responsible for leading the meetings. Joseph, Tomas and I traveled on to Satu Mare to the "Vekas Hotel." (That is the fun name we have called Elizabeth's home over the years as we have stayed with her, Zoltan and their children.)

That Tuesday night, it was my joy to be able to worship with the Tream Gypsy Church. It is a church planted by the Satu Mare Church during the early years of Teleios work among Hungarian Baptists. God has allowed Floyd and me many opportunities to participate in His work there. The people of Tream hold a very special place in our hearts! I am grateful to Barna Kovacs for translating for me as together we led in the weekly service.

The Satu Mare Church women's monthly meeting is held on Wednesday nights. These sisters in Christ and I have walked life together since August 1999. It was a great encouragement for me to share Bible study and prayer time with them at their meeting in September. As always, fellowship time with them is exciting as we catch up on changes within our families and reminisce about times past. What a gift from God they are for me!

On Thursday evening, Elizabeth, Judith Kovacs, Irma Ivanisky



The women's meeting in Orasul Nou was filled with prayers and singing, followed by refreshments and fellowship.



God's faithfulness to His people was the topic Bonnie Parker, right, presented during the women's conference at the Acas church. Translating for Bonnie was Judith Kovacs.

and I traveled to the village of Orasul Nou to conduct a women's meeting. I have been with this group of women before. The church there is very small and its members are quite elderly. Elizabeth organizes meetings for them several times throughout the year. Each time, the invitation to attend is extended throughout the community to believers and non-believers. The women of the Reformed Church always participate. On this night the meeting was filled with prayers and singing. Judith led the music and translated for me. Using Psalm 37:1-11, I spoke on how believers are able to find peace and tranquility in life. We had a good number attend. Following the meeting we had refreshments and a fellowship time.

I want to take a paragraph here to share how meaningful it has been to me to watch Judith grow into a mature woman of God. I first met her in 1999. She was a young wife and mother of two. She has maintained a warm loving home over the years. Along with her husband, Barna, she has reared her two children, Patrick and Victoria, into God-honoring young people.

It has been amazing to watch her develop and use the gifts which God has instilled in her. She works with Child Evangelism Fellowship conducting meetings and camps for children. Her skills at translation continue to grow, and I really enjoy being teamed with her when speaking. She is a blessing to everyone she encounters!

Friday was free of speaking engagements, so Elizabeth and I took opportunity to study, finish our preparations and rest in order to be ready for the conference in Acas on Saturday. That evening, we attended the weekly prayer service at the Satu Mare church.

Saturday was an exciting day! Just over 400 women gathered in

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Seminar Focuses On Christ-Honoring Businesses

By Floyd Parker

Life Change Investments (LCI) of Kenya hosted a seminar in September that focused on “Prospering And Transforming Christ-Honoring Entrepreneurs And Businesses.”

Twelve business owners participated in the two-day seminar. They were joined by Bill and Debbie Kenny, Floyd and Bonnie Parker, and the LCI team. Bill shared why he is involved in growing Christ-honoring businesses in the marketplace and taught how to develop a business plan and income statement. Floyd presented the Biblical basis for a Christ-honoring business. Charles Wambui, LCI Business Manag-

er, shared of the challenges related to obtaining affordable capital and business training in Kenya. Bernard Mwangi presented the dream that has become LCI with its mission and values.

LCI Vision Statement: LCI is called to be a change agent for Christ-honoring business culture and practice.

LCI Values: Integrity, Respect, Admiration (of Christ), Trust, Efficiency and Generosity

LCI Objectives:

- Developing entrepreneurs and business owners who have embraced business practices that are Christ-honoring.
- Growing businesses that are founded on Christ-honoring values and that are life transforming (Church in the market place).
- Helping prosperous and generous business owners and businesses investing in Kingdom growth and advance.
- Fostering self-multiplying and transgenerational business growth.



FAITHFULNESS

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the Acas church for a day of celebrating life in Jesus Christ at the annual Gypsy Women’s Conference. It was a time filled with testimonies, music and challenges from God’s Word to be faithful followers.

My topic for the conference took a look into the life of Abraham as an example of God’s faithfulness to His people and our need to remain faithful to our calling as believers. Other topics included our responsibility to live faithfully within our family, to participate faithfully with other believers within the life of the church, and to be responsible stewards of the resources with which God blesses us. Speakers included Elizabeth, Iboya Balint and Elizabeth Fekete.

A delicious meal of cabbage rolls was prepared by women of the Acas church. Men from the church, with guidance from Irma, served the lunch. How far things have progressed through the years!



Elizabeth Vekas, right, presents a gift Bonnie Parker for Teleios Ministry that was collected at the meeting in the Salaj region and designated for the women’s work in Tanzania.

Floyd, having finished his work at the Barnabas Group meetings, joined us in Acas and delivered the closing sermon. It was wonderful for both of us to be able to be a part of this conference again!

Floyd and I were together for the remainder of our time in Romania. On Sunday morning he preached in Tiream and at the Satu Mare church in the evening.

The women’s meeting in the Salaj region was on Monday. We had lunch in the home of Marta Borzasi and family in Pericei before traveling into the town of Simleul for the meeting. Around 100 women attended with representation from almost every church in the region.

I had been given the topic “The Benefits of Our Salvation” to speak about in the afternoon session and shared a Powerpoint presentation about the work of Teleios Ministry in the evening session. Much to my surprise, the offering collected at the meeting that day was presented to Teleios Ministry and designated for the women’s work in Tanzania! I praise God for the faithfulness of Christian women all over the world working together to share the love of Jesus! It is amazing to be a part of God’s family.



Cabbage rolls were the main feature on the menu for lunch at the Acas women’s conference and enjoyed by all.

This Just In...

From Kenya...

Congratulations to Robert and Lucy Muteithia on the birth of their son, Floyd Humphrey. He was born on November 10 and weighed a little more than three pounds. He is healthy, and his milk intake improves each day. Both mother and son continue to do well. Praise God for this new life and for Robert and Lucy in their roles now as parents.

From Tanzania...

Arusha – Theresia Dalla, one of the young women of **Daily Bread Life Children’s Home**, will graduate from The University of the Nations in Arusha on December 4. She is the first DBLCH young person to graduate with a post high school diploma. Her degree is in Biblical studies with an emphasis in counseling. This university is accredited by Youth With A Mission.

Kidete – Big news from the Bread of Life Secondary School...all the students passed the pre-national exams with flying colors! Their success means that BLSS now ranks sixth in the region!

You can be a part of the continued success at BLSS by contributing to the purchase of lab equipment. To help, contact Bonnie Parker at 864-322-9775.

Barnabas Group Learns To Respond To ‘None’

Hungarian pastors and mission leaders in Romania known as The Barnabas Group and led by Dr. Jozsef Kovacs meets twice a year for fellowship and to be challenged in their understanding of how God is at work in this world and how they can join Him in transforming their communities and country as leaders called by Him.

In September, Floyd met with the group and talked about how to respond to the new religious preference of “None” listed by those who when asked about their religious preference say, “None.” As the group delved into this topic, they realized the practical impact of living out “God’s Grace” has a transformative significance in reaching people regardless of culture.

Help Change Lives With Your Giving This Christmas



‘Tis the season for thinking of others and thanking God for the gift of His Son.

Each year, Teleios produces a Christmas Catalog filled with items representing needs, “next steps” in a vision becoming reality or a one-time boost for a project.

This is the perfect outlet for you to find a gift that will definitely keep on giving!

We pray your heart will be touched to help meet a need.

<http://www.teleiosministry.org/2015%20Christmas%20Catalog.pdf>

Happy Day Academy Graduates First Class!

The 2015 Eighth Grade Class is the first to graduate from Happy Day Academy.

Since its beginning as a K-4 school 12 years ago, Mary Kabaru’s vision for Happy Day has continued to grow as it reached K-8 level. Now, that vision has realized a major step in the transformation of children’s lives and families through a Christ-centered, high quality education open to all children, including orphans and vulnerable children.



Garry and Kitty Freeman joined with Mary and Bernard in 2004 to help build a permanent home for Happy Day Academy in Limuru, Kenya. Today, with the help of many others who shared in this vision, the dream is celebrated as a reality in the transformation of lives in Jesus Christ.



HELPING GOD-GIVEN VISIONS BECOME PRESENT-DAY REALITIES

We're on the Web! Check us out — www.teleiosministry.org and Facebook



Reflections From the Green Chair....

What does Teleios really mean for the Mission of God being lived out today?

One of the most powerful and challenging mission passages given to us by Jesus is found in Matthew 5:43-48: *“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ But I say to you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven; for He causes His sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? If you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? Therefore you are to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.”*

As I think about it, I can't say that I have ever heard a mission sermon or teaching on this passage. In fact, I have heard very few teachings on this passage.

First, where does Teleios fit in? Teleios is the Greek word translated perfect in verse 48: *“You are to be Teleios as your heavenly Father is Teleios.”* The meaning of Teleios is far from our modern under-

standing of “perfect.” Teleios means to be fulfilled, finished product, complete.

What this passage really speaks about is having a fulfilled life – like God has a fulfilled life. What brings about such fulfillment?

The truth, as I hear often even from followers, is described in verse 43: *“Love your neighbor and hate your enemy.”* Jesus completely turns that around with *“love your enemies and pray for those who persecute/mistreat you.”* Why? So you can be a real child of God. So you can find genuine fulfillment in your life.

To make matters even more challenging, Jesus goes on to intensify what it means to love in practical terms. God brings rain and sunshine regardless of whether a person is righteous or evil. In fact, they get the same blessing from God. Have you ever thought that God blesses some people who are not righteous because He loves them or even more because they love Him?

I have heard it said, *“If you love God, He will bless you.”* Listen, God will bless you with His love even if you hate Him. Why? His love is not dependent on what you or I do. Sometimes, I believe from this

passage that God blesses even the unrighteous because that is who He is.

In mission, what makes us unique and brings fulfillment in our lives is when we love or greet those who do not love us or do not return the greeting. Verses 43-47 define “perfect” and they define “fulfillment.” We were made in God's image. That image is best seen when our actions demonstrate and reveal a fulfilling life. If our love needs love in return, if our serving needs acknowledgement in return, if our greetings demand greetings, then our fulfillment in life is dependent on others and not God. People quit the “mission” because they are looking for love in all the wrong places.

My prayer for you is that you will be *Teleios* as your heavenly Father is *Teleios*; that you will live a fulfilling life; that you be fulfilled like our heavenly Father is fulfilled. What brings fulfillment to God will bring fulfillment to us. God is fulfilled not by the response He gets but from the fact He does it. He loves and in His loving there is fulfillment.

Serving Together on Mission,

Floyd